

Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 13 and has cancelled claims 10-12 and 22-24 without prejudice. Applicants set forth a complete listing of the claims with the corresponding status indicated for each claim.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for use with a first network device coupled to a first network, the first network coupled to a second network, the first network device comprising ~~information identifying a source address of~~ the first network device on the ~~first~~ second network, the method comprising:

receiving ~~an identification~~ a query message from the first network device, the ~~identification~~ query message comprising the ~~identifying information~~ source address of the first network device and a query;

parsing the ~~identification~~ query message to extract the ~~identifying information of the first network device~~ source address and the query from the query message; [[and]]

processing the query by searching a directory table on a third network to identify a second network device coupled to the first network, the second network device comprising information identifying the second device on the ~~first~~ second network;

formulating a reply message that includes the identifying information; and
sending the reply message to the first network device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises a network connection for coupling to the first network.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a local area network.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the second network comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the first network device is located within the firewall.

10-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for use with first and second network devices coupled to a first network, the first network coupled to a second network, the first network device comprising information identifying the first network device on the first network, the second network device comprising information identifying the second network device on the first network, the method comprising:

receiving a first identification message from the first network device, the first identification message comprising the identifying information of the first network device;

parsing the first identification message to extract the identifying information of the first network device;

registering the first network device in a directory table on a third network according to the identifying information of the first network device;

receiving a ~~second identification~~ query message from the second network device, the ~~second identification~~ query message comprising the identifying information of the second network device and a query;

parsing the ~~second identification~~ query message to extract the identifying information of the second network device and the query from the query message;
[[and]]

processing the query by searching the directory table to identify the first network device based on the identifying information of the second network device; and
formulating a reply message that includes the identifying information of the first network device; and
sending the reply message to the second network device.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second network devices each comprise one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first network device comprises a computer and the second network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first network device comprises a computer and the second network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second network devices each comprise a network connection for coupling to the first network.

18. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first network comprises a local area network.

19. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks.

20. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the second network comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet.

21. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the first and second network devices are located within the firewall.

22-24. (Cancelled)